



Motor Vehicle Administration

Facts About...

Changes to the Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program (VEIP)

— Effective August 1, 2009 —

- **Elimination of the IM240 dynamometer test**

A new VEIP operations contract takes effect August 1, 2009. The incumbent contractor, Environmental Systems Products (ESP) was selected to operate the program through 2014, after a competitive bidding process.

Under the new contract, vehicle inspections consist of on-board diagnostics (OBD) testing and idle testing; the dynamometer test has been eliminated. This is because over 85% of the current vehicle population is OBD-equipped, while the number eligible for the dynamometer test is about 10% and declining as older vehicles are replaced with newer models. Non-OBD-equipped vehicles are idle tested.

- **Mandatory gas cap testing for vehicles undergoing the idle test**

The gas cap test is a functional check for leaks and proper seal to reduce fuel evaporation. The gas cap test had previously been advisory only. Vehicles that arrive for testing without a gas cap, or with the incorrect gas cap, will fail the test.

OBD-equipped vehicles are not subject to the mandatory gas cap test because the OBD system checks the entire fuel system, including the cap.

- **Revised idle test standards for certain model year vehicles**

The updated idle test standards apply primarily to certain model year light duty passenger vehicles and trucks that had previously been subject to the IM240 test. Idle test standards have been revised for 1991 – 1995 models, reflecting advances in emissions control system design and durability. Some heavy duty standards have been updated as well.

- **Permanent closure of the Gaithersburg West VEIP testing station**

Due to a request from the Federal Aviation Administration, the Montgomery County West VEIP Station located by the Gaithersburg Airpark is permanently closed as of August 1, 2009. Motorists may take their vehicles to the other Montgomery County VEIP station, located at 15910 Chieftain Ave, Derwood, MD 20855, off of Redland Rd and Yellowstone Way – ½ mile east of Frederick Rd (MD 355). Additional VEIP locations are listed [here](#).